



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
OFFICE OF MEDIA RELATIONS

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Vaughn Correctional Officer selected for Dancing with the Delaware Stars *Glenenise Parks ready for the challenge - and the fun*

Many of us find pleasure and entertainment in watching reality TV shows. We settle into our couches and lose ourselves in someone else's reality for an hour or so. But Glenenise Parks, who helps staff medical runs as a Correctional Officer at the James T. Vaughn Correctional Center, gets to take things to a whole different level. Selected to be a participant in the 4th annual Dancing with the Delaware Stars event, Parks has been practicing with her professional dance partner since November. They work on their routine at least once a week for up to one-and-a-half hours per session.



"It's been going great," said Parks, who lives in Dover and was paired up with Smyrna's Richard Normington. "It's a really fun dance we're working on. I can tell you that much, but we're really trying to keep the routine a surprise."

Parks, who has been with the Department of Correction for 15 years, is excited to get the opportunity to perform in front of hundreds of people during the Jan. 26 event being held in the Dover Downs ballroom, but she is equally excited to be helping raise money for what she feels is a wonderful organization, Mom's House of Dover.

Mom's House of Dover is a program that offers single parents the opportunity to continue their education by providing childcare services free of charge, and Dancing with the Delaware Stars is one of the program's most significant fundraisers.

"Dancing is a passion for me, so I have been helping out with the Dancing with the Delaware Stars event for the past few years," said Parks, who plays an active role in supporting various nonprofit and charity agencies and organizations throughout the year. "It's a good cause and I enjoy being able to help."

One way to support Parks, as well as Mom's House of Dover, is to visit <http://www.dancingdestars.org/> and cast a vote for her and Normington, who are one of eight teams participating in the event. Each on-line vote requires a \$1 donation. On-line votes count toward one-third of each team's total score. The other two components of scoring, each also one-third of the final tally, are judges votes and guests votes the evening of the competition.

Even though she knows the bottom line is to have fun and help raise money for Mom's House of Dover, Parks is taking her performance very seriously.

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“I’m certain I’ll be nervous,” she said. “I’m used to dancing with a group of people, so this will be much different. With 800 plus eyes on us, I don’t want to mess up a step. One wrong step could ruin the whole routine.”

Despite the pressure, Parks is ready for her moment in the spotlight. “I am excited. My family is planning to attend, so that will be nice. I can’t wait for that night to get here!”

For more information:

Mom’s House of Dover, <http://www.momshousedover.org/>

Dancing with the Delaware Stars, <http://www.dancingdestars.org/>

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